

NIMKII AAZHIBIKONG LESSONS  
 LESSON 6  
 TRANSCRIPT

NARRATOR	You are all sitting around sewing and chatting. The elder wants to get to know you better, and you end up delving into a pretty serious conversation about why your parents didn't speak the language too you. Here's how that conversation might sound:
Maanii	Aanii. Aniish ezhnikaazhoyin?
Waasnode	Waasnode ndizhnikaaz.
Maanii	Gdaa'aawag na bnoojiiyag?
Waasnode	Ehn. Niizh nda aa'wag.
Maanii	Aaniish enso g'boongizwaat gda bnoojimak?
Waasnode	Nso bboongizi miinewaa naano bboongizi
Maanii	Gdoo nishnaabemtoowag na?
Waasnode	Ehn. Enso giizhigak.
Maanii	Shtaahaa. Mii sa nishing. Nishinaabemwak gewiinwaa gitsimag.
Waasnode	Gaawiin nishinaabemsii noos. Sastam dash wii go. Geyaabi nishinaabemok Nookomis miinewaa nmishoomis.
Maanii	Aanii dash we nji nishinaabemsik?
Waasnode	Gii nendamok oshmi dawenpanziiwaat ji baamaadziwaat.
Maanii	Miigwetch maampii yaayek. Gmaamiikwenminim ezhi gojiitooyek gnishinaabemyek.
Waasnode	Miigwetch ge gii kinoomooyaang.
	Dialogue repeats once more.
NARRATOR	You just heard Maanii say: "Aaniish enso g'boongizwaat gda bnoojimak?" How do you ask, "How old is she or he?"
Waasnode	Aaniish sa bboongizit? Aaniish sa bboongizit?
NARRATOR	How old is she or he?
Waasnode	Aniish sa bbongizit?
NARRATOR	Kidon "I'm thirsty."
Maanii	Ngaaskinabaagwe. Ngaaskinabaagwe.
NARRATOR	You might know a person from the Elder's community. Kwejim Maanii, "Do you know Odjig?"
Waasnode	Gikenmaa na Odjig?
NARRATOR	Maanii says, "yes, I know Odjig." Just listen.
Maanii	Ehn, ngikenmaa Odjig.
NARRATOR	Repeat after the speaker.
Maanii	Ehn, ngikenmaa Odjig.
NARRATOR	Kidon "I am related to him."

Maanii	Ndinawemaa wa.
NARRATOR	I am related to him.
Maanii	Ndinawemaa wa.
NARRATOR	Before ceremony begins, Waasnode starts her moontime and needs to speak to an Elder regarding proper protocol for this territory. Here is how she could say to Maanii “I want to speak to you alone.”
Waasnode	Kwii gnoonin nshikehn.
NARRATOR	Listen closely. “I want to speak to you alone.”
Waasnode	Kwii gnoonin nshikehn.
NARRATOR	I want to speak to you alone.”
Waasnode	Kwii gnoonin nshikehn.
NARRATOR	Waasnode begins to tell Maanii, “I’m on my moontime.”
Waasnode	Ndaanjigiise.
NARRATOR	“I’m on my moontime.”
Waasnode	Ndaanjigiise.
NARRATOR	Listen to Maanii saying, “Last time.”
Maanii	Shkwaatch.
NARRATOR	Repeat after the speaker.
Maanii	Shkwaatch.
NARRATOR	Last time.
Maanii	Shkwaatch.
NARRATOR	Here is how you say “We didn’t do (something.)”
Waasnode	Gaawiin kii zhichigesiiimi.
NARRATOR	Waasnode says, “Last time we didn’t do this.”
Waasnode	Shkwaatch, gaawiin kii zhichigesiiimi maanda.
NARRATOR	Repeat after the speaker
Waasnode	Shkwaatch, gaawiin kii zhichigesiiimi maanda.
NARRATOR	Last time we didn’t do this.
Waasnode	Shkwaatch, gaawiin kii zhichigesiiimi maanda.
NARRATOR	Last time we didn’t do this.
Waasnode	Shkwaatch, gaawiin kii zhichigesiiimi maanda.
NARRATOR	Geyaabi ngoding means “once more”. Instead of saying “repeat this”, I’ll say, “geyaabi ngoding.” Geyaabi ngoding, “we didn’t do something.” Repeat after the speaker.
Maanii	Mi Si-mi Ge-si-mi Zhichigesiiimi Kii Gaawiin Gaawiin kii zhichigesiiimi Gaawiin kii zhichigesiiimi

NARRATOR	We didn't do something.
Maanii	Gaawiin kii zhichigesiimi
NARRATOR	All together
Waasnode	Gaawiin kiizhichigesiimi maanda.
NARRATOR	Which part of the sentence means "this" – as in something not living or inanimate?
Maanii	Manda.
NARRATOR	You might need to go to the bathroom during ceremony, gmikwendaan na, "I will be right back?"
Waasnode	Nga bipskaabii wiibaa.
NARRATOR	Afterwards you will be asked to help clean up. Kidon "where does this belong?"
Maanii	Aapiish dbendaagook?
NARRATOR	Where does this belong?
Maanii	Aapiish dbendaagook?
NARRATOR	Where does this belong?
Maanii	Aapiish dbendaagook?
NARRATOR	How would you say "Where does this bowl belong?"
Waasnode	Aapiish dbendaagook manda boskinaagan?
NARRATOR	Where does this bowl belong?
Waasnode	Aapiish dbendaagook manda boskinaagan?
NARRATOR	Which part of that sentence means bowl?
Maanii	boskinaagan
NARRATOR	Let's go back to this part of our conversation earlier.
Maanii	Gdoo nishinaabem toowag na?
Waasnode	Ehn, enso giizhigak.
Maanii	Shtaahaa! Mii sa nishing.
NARRATOR	Which part of this conversation means, "that's good?"
Maanii	Mii sa nishing.
NARRATOR	That's good.
Maanii	Mii sa nishing.
NARRATOR	Often times we tend to overuse the word "nishin" but the way Maanii used it makes the idea sound fuller and more complete. Let's repeat that once more. "That's good!"
Maanii	Mii sa nishing.
NARRATOR	Here is another way to say that something is good. This way means "amazing!"
Waasnode	Gwetaankamik!
NARRATOR	"amazing!"
Waasnode	Gwetaankamik!
NARRATOR	When we prepared for the ceremony, Maanii asked Nimkii to make a fire. Gmikwendaan na how to tell someone to "Make a fire"?

Maanii	Boodwen
NARRATOR	Nimkii might ask, “how much fire wood do you need?” Kidon.
Nimkii	Aaniish mnik msan meyneziyin?
NARRATOR	Which part means, “How much?”
Nimkii	Aaniish mnik?
NARRATOR	Which part means, “firewood?”
Nimkii	Msan.
NARRATOR	Msan refers to more than one piece of firewood. Do you know the word for just one piece of firewood?
Nimkii	Mshi.
NARRATOR	Later on in ceremony, Maanii acknowledges Nimkii’s help. She says to Nimkii, “thank you for starting the fire.”
Maanii	Miigwetch wii boodweyin.
NARRATOR	Repeat after Maanii.
Maanii	Miigwetch wii boodweyin.
NARRATOR	Thank you for starting the fire.
Maanii	Miigwetch wii boodweyin.
NARRATOR	How do you think you would say, “thank you for being here?”
Maanii	Miigwetch maampii yaayin.
NARRATOR	“thank you for being here”
Maanii	Miigwetch maampii yaayin.
NARRATOR	“thank you for being here”
Maanii	Miigwetch maampii yaayin.
NARRATOR	Now say, “Thank you for teaching us.”
Waasnode	Miigwech kinomooyaang.
NARRATOR	“Thank you for teaching us.”
Waasnode	Miigwech kinomooyaang.
NARRATOR	When making a fire at language camp you might not have a light with you. Kwejim, “Do you have a light?”
Maanii	Shkodehns na gda’aan?
NARRATOR	Do you have a light?
Maanii	Shkodehns na gda’aan?
NARRATOR	Now ask, do you have scissors?
Waasnode	Moozhwaagan na gda’aan?
NARRATOR	After ceremony, you and Maanii might be visiting again. She asks, “Have you seen Odjig?”
Maanii	Gdoo nji waabmaa na Odjig?
NARRATOR	Have you seen Odjig?
Maanii	Gdoo nji waabmaa na Odjig?
NARRATOR	This is different from, “Did you see Odjig?” Listen carefully.
Waasnode	Kii waabmaa na Odjig?

NARRATOR	“Gdoo nji waabmaa na?” is a more common phrase. You are implying, “Have you seen them recently?” Let’s try that again, “Have you seen Odjig recently?”
Maanii	Gdoo nji waabmaa na Odjig?
NARRATOR	Have you seen Odjig recently?
Maanii	Gdoo nji waabmaa na Odjig?
NARRATOR	You want to answer Maanii by saying, “last week.” Gmikwendaan na “Last week?”
Waasnode	Gaa bi miseg.
NARRATOR	Last week.
Waasnode	Gaa bi miseg.
NARRATOR	How do you say, “I am on my moontime.”
Maanii	Nda’aanjigiise.
NARRATOR	How do you think you would say, “she is on her moontime?”
Waasnode	Aanjigiise.
NARRATOR	How do you ask someone, “Are you on your moontime?” Don’t forget to use the question word “na”.
Maanii	Gda’aanjigiise na?
NARRATOR	Let’s listen to how beautifully this conversation ends.
Maanii	Miigwetch maampii yaayek. Gmaamiikwenamin ezhi gzhitooyek Nishinaabemyek.
NARRATOR	Which part means, “thank you for being here?”
Maanii	Miigwetch maampii yaayek.
NARRATOR	Thank you for being here.
Maanii	Miigwetch maampii yaayek.
NARRATOR	How about, “I am proud of you all?”
Maanii	Gmaamiikwenminim.
NARRATOR	Now you just want to say, “I am proud of you” to one person. How do you say that?
Waasnode	Gmaamiikwenmin.
NARRATOR	Geyaabi ngoding. Once more.
Waasnode	Min Kwenmin Miikwenmin Maamiikwenmin gmaamiikwenmin
NARRATOR 2	We’ve covered a lot of ground in his lesson. Before we go back and listen to the dialogue again, we’re going to take a side-track and concentrate on the words in the dialogue so that when we come back to it you’ll be able to understand what’s been said.  Listen as Mary asks Waasnode “do you have children?”

Maanii	Gda'aawak na binoojiiyak?
NARRATOR 2	Waasnode answers, yes I have two.
Waasnode	Ehn, niizh da'aawak.
NARRATOR 2	You probably already know that winter is "bboon." Now listen to Mary ask Waasnode "how old are your children?". The question is literally asking, "how many winters are they?"
Maanii	Aaniish enso g'boongizwaat gda bnoojimak?
NARRATOR 2	Listen again, and listen for the "gda" before the word for children. This is the part that says, "your children"
Maanii	Gda binoojimak.
NARRATOR 2	Now listen again as Mary asks Waasnode, "how old are your children?"
Maanii	Aaniish enso g'boongizwaat gda bnoojimak?
NARRATOR 2	Listen to how Waasnode answers Maanii. See if you can guess what this means?
Waasnode	Nso bboongizi miinewaa naano bboongizi.
NARRATOR 2	If you guessed 3 years old and 5 years old you were correct. Listen and repeat after Waasnode, "3 years old and 5 years old.
Waasnode	Nso bboongizi miinewaa naano bboongizi.
NARRATOR 2	Now Maanii asks, "do you speak to them in the language?"
Maanii	Gdoo nishinaabem toowag na?
NARRATOR 2	How would you answer her, "yes, every day."
Waasnode	Ehn, enso giizhigak.
NARRATOR 2	You probably already know that "ge'e" means also and "wiinwaa" means they. In the form of a question it would be asking "do they also ___?" Try to pick that word out in the following question.
Maanii	Nishinaabemok na ge wiinwaa getsimag?
NARRATOR 2	Did you hear "getsimag" in there? Listen again. That means "your parents." The question is asking, "Do your parents also speak the language?"
Maanii	Nishinaabemok na ge wiinwaa getsimag?
NARRATOR 2	You probably already know that the word for my father is "noos" and the word for "understand" is "sastam". Listen as Waasnode says, "My father doesn't speak the language, but he understands."
Waasnode	Gaawiin Nishinaabemsii Noos. Sastam dash wii go.
NARRATOR 2	"My father doesn't speak the language, but he understands."
Waasnode	Gaawiin Nishinaabemsii Noos. Sastam dash wii go.
NARRATOR 2	How do you say my grandmother and my grandfather?
Waasnode	Nokoomis miinewaa nmishoomis.
NARRATOR 2	Do you know the word for "still"? As in, "its still happening?"
NARRATOR 2	The word for "still" is "geyaabi." Now listen to Waasnode say, "My grandparents still speak."
Waasnode	Geyaabi nishinaabemok nokoomis miinwaa nmishoomis.

NARRATOR 2	<p>You might have noticed the word “still” comes before the word for the language. The language is pluralized, “nishinaabemok”, because there is more than one person that she’s referring to as being speakers of the language. Namely, her grandmother and grandfather. This is a good example of how the word order within Anishinaabemowin is different than the word order within English sentences. You wouldn’t say in English, “still, there are speakers of the language, my grandfather and my grandmother.” As you are learning you will notice that the word order in English is different than the word order in Anishinaabemowin. Fluent speakers will tell learners they should pay attention to the way things are naturally worded within Anishinaabemowin and not try to simply translate from English into Anishinaabemowin or try to replicate the English word order patterns.</p> <p>Let’s listen to that sentace again where Wassnode says, “My father doesn’t speak the language, but my grandparents still do.”</p>
Waasnode	Gaawiin nishinaabemsii Noos. Sastam dash wii go. Geyaabi nishinaabemok nokoomis miinwaa nmishoomis.
NARRATOR 2	Mary then asks Waasnode why her father doesn’t speak the language?
Maanii	Aanii dash wenji nishinaabemsik?
NARRATOR 2	Listen again as she asks, “Why doesn’t he speak Anishinaabemowin?”
Maanii	Aanii dash wenji nishinaabemsik?
NARRATOR 2	Waasnode answers, “they thought it would be easier for them to live their life?”
NARRATOR	Let’s listen to our conversation once more.
Waasnode	Gii nendamok oshmi da wenpaanziwaat ji baamaadziwaat.
Maanii	Aanii. Aniish ezhnikaazhoyin?
Waasnode	Waasnode ndizhnikaaz.
Maanii	Gdaa’aawag na bnoojiiyag?
Waasnode	Ehn. Niizh nda aa’wag.
Maanii	Aaniish enso g’boongizwaat gda bnoojimak?
Waasnode	Nso bboongizi miinewaa naano bboongizi
Maanii	Gdoo nishnaabemtoowag na?
Waasnode	Ehn. Enso giizhigak.
Maanii	Shtaahaa. Mii sa nishing. Nishinaabemwak gewiinwaa gitsimag.
Waasnode	Gaawiin nishinaabemsii noos. Sastam dash wii go. Geyaabi nishinaabemok Nookomis miinewaa nmishoomis.
Maanii	Aanii dash we nji nishinaabemsik?
Waasnode	Gii nendamok oshmi dawanpanziwaat ji baamaadziwaat.
Maanii	Miigwetch maampii yaayek. Gmaamiikwenminim ezhi gojiitooyek gnishinaabemyek.
Waasnode	Miigwetch ge gii kinoomooyaang.
NARRATOR	Miigwetch bzindaajjeyin.


